SOCCER STAR

SERVING VICTORIAN SOCCER

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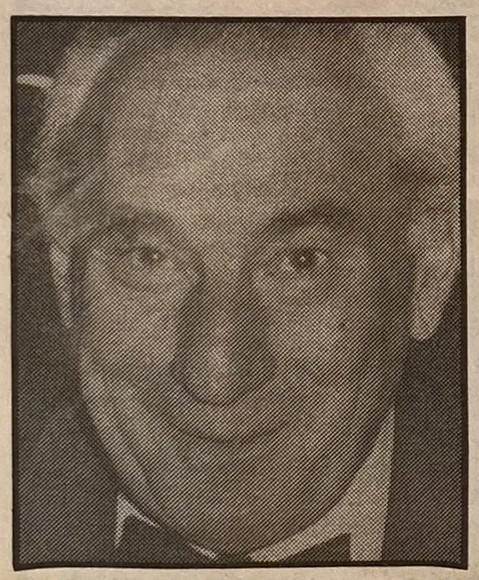
ASF quits smoking, opts for health instead



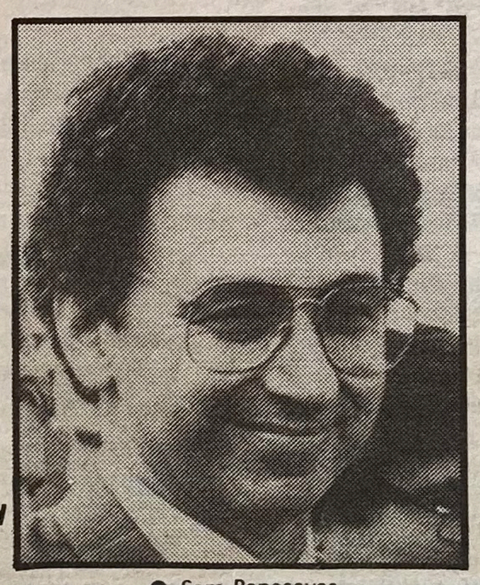
● Ian Brvsaco

By LES SHORROCK

The ASF ended its long association with tobacco sponsorship at its Executive meeting in Sydney last Saturday when it accepted new promotional arrangements offered by the Victorian Health Foundation.

Delegates from every State voted unanimously to accept a five-year sponsorship deal worth over $7 million, to be shared between the States and the National League.

A joint statement issued by ASF chairman Ian Brusasco and NSL chairman Sam Papasavas said the deal would be spearheaded by the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VHPF) and supported by health groups from other States.



● Sam Papasavas

"It is time for Australian soccer to recognise the current trend away from tobacco being associated with sport," Ian Brusasco said.

For his part, Sam Papasavas said he welcomed the joint sponsorship proposals which guaranteed the financial future of the NSL whilst making it tobacco free.

1989 is the last year of the NSL's three-year sponsorship deal with Adelaide-based brewer West End and it was no secret that the League was worrying about finding a replacement for West End.

The ASF statement said that the overall sponsorship arrangements involve positive negotiations between the VHPF and West End, regarding new responsible alcohol campaigns for the NSL.

Ian Brusasco expressed his satisfaction at the sponsorship arrangements, saying the deal would help to ensure the future of the whole code.

He said it meant that soccer sponsorship from juniors right up to Socceroo

● Continued Page 15

ABC TV is NBG

We were amongst those who applauded the decision to grant the NSL television rights to the ABC in preference to SBS, mainly because of the ABC's better access to country areas.

But after watching that dismal effort late last Sunday night, we are bound to say we were dead wrong.

The programme was so badly presented that a better title for the taxpayers channel would be the Amateur Broadcasting Commission, were that not a slur on amateurs.

It was like watching Auntie Elsie's home movie of an overseas trip, whilst the so-called commentary was just an unmitigated disaster.

John Kosmina was there to provide the occasional expert comment, but when the ABC's man dried up at the start, it was Kosmina to the rescue, otherwise we would have died wondering.

Come back Les Murray... where are you Mike Hill?

What amazes most of all though, is that this match that the ABC attempted to cover was two days old.

If they couldn't get it right in 48 hours, what the hell sort of a mess will they make of games played the same day?

If that programme did have a producer, which seems doubtful, why didn't he dub it in the studio, with some expert (Eddie Thomson maybe?) doing a voice-over?

That way we would have been spared a lot of embarrassment.

The ninny who tried to do the commentary should be made to sit down and watch that excellent English Football League programme on Monday nights and learn how Brian Moore and Martin Tyler do it.

Professional that they are, they do their homework so well in fact that sometimes you feel that if someone asked them what a player had for the breakfast on match day they would be able to answer without turning a hair.

● Continued P. 15

NSL RESULTS AT A GLANCE

● MELB. CITY 3
MELB. CROATIA 1
● HEIDELBERG 0
SYD. OLYMPIC 4
● APIA 0
WOLLONGONG 0
● BLACKTOWN 2
ADCITY 1
● ST GEORGE 0
STH. MELB. 3
● SYD. CROATIA 1
GEORGE CROSS 0
● PRESTON 0
MARCONI 1

DISMAL START FOR OUR CLUBS

MELBOURNE'S NSL clubs got off to a disastrous start last weekend.

Preston Makedonia lost in the last minute to champion Marconi, George Cross suffered a similar fate in Sydney at the hands of Croatia, whilst newly-promoted Heidelberg was thrashed at home by Olympic.

Only South Melbourne, a big winner over St George, and the newly-named Melbourne City JUST, convincing winner over arch rival Melbourne Croatia could hold their heads high

DETAILS ..... PAGE 4.

STOP PRESS

ROTHMANS HITS BACK

● Page 5

When is a holiday not a holiday?

By LES SHORROCK

SOMEONE should have bought the NSL one of those calenders with a magnet on the back to stick on the 'frig... you know the sort, they have a red ring round the public holidays.

That way, maybe, just maybe, they wouldn't believe that today (Thursday) is a public holiday all over the country.

It might be so in Sydney, but South of the border it's not for we Mexicans, Croweaters and Sandgropers.

It took George Cross, ringing Sydney for permission to play on Wednesday instead to alert the NSL office.

"What's the problem," said the innocent spokesperson, "your players can get time off, it's a holiday."

On being informed to the contrary she said, "Well, it's too late now, you'll have to play."

★★★★★★★★★★

REFEREE SHORTAGE CRITICAL

Congratulations to the Victorian Referees Association for having the sense to appoint a Media Liaison officer, none other than the genial Michael Gaut aka Superman.

Michael rang to tell me that Tony Beasley has been appointed State Director of Coaching for referees and will be assisted in that cpacity by Jim Fearn.

But, he hastened to add, there will be none of the dramatics of last season, by which I suppose he means that refs will be allowed to talk to the media.

That's only the good new though.

The bad news is that the referee shortage is approaching crisis point.

Victoria had 125 senior referees in 1987, which shrank to 109 in 1988.

Now that number has fallen to less than 100 and to make matters worse, no fewer than 58% of those are aged over 40.

So come on, you budding whistlemen, come to the aid of the game before it is too late.

★★★★★★★★★★

MALMO HERE SOON

Make a note in your diary to keep February 17 clear.

The Offside club will be putting on a lunch that Friday, in honour of the visiting Swedish champion club Malmo, here to play a two-game series against the Socceroos.

Guest speaker will be Malmo manager Roy Hodgson, an Englishman who has had a lot of success with Malmo manager Roy Hodgson, an Englishman who has had a lot of success with Malmo, having guided the club t four successive championships.

The venue for the lunch has not yet been arranged, but watch this column, I'll keep you posted.

SNIPPETS

It was a giggle to see all the non-soccer media turn up for last Saturday night's match between Melbourne City and Melbourne Croatia at Olympic Park.

One newspaper that wouldn't use a soccer picture in a fit sent a photographer, who went up into the stand looking for trouble, and Channel Nine sent a camera crew.

But it was all in vain, because the crowd behaved impeccably (there was no amber liquid on sale, by the way).

What a pity Nine didn't send that camera crew to Mansfield, where they could have filmed the footy yobbos (players, not spectators) creating mayhem.

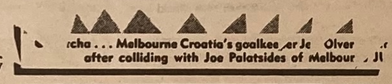
Ofcourse, since Nine owns cricket, it wouldn't think of sending a crew into Bay 13 of the MCG during a one-dayer against the Windies, now would it?

★★★★★★★★★★

OOOPS — THERE GOES ANOTHER! VSF Executive Director George Wallace was stunned when he picked up his Sun newspaper on Monday and read the State Victorian and Provisional League results on page 77.

"My God, I've missed the start of the Victorian season," was his first reaction, until he recognised the matches were those of round 18, Saturday July 9, 1988!!!

★★★★★★★★★★



...cha... Melbourne Croatia's goalkee...er Je Olver ... after colliding with Joe Palatsides of Melbour ...Ji

NSL DETAILS

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Apia Leichhardt 0 drew with Wollongong City 0, Sydney Croatia 1 (B Ingham) d Sunshine 0, Marconi 1 (B Calderan) d Preston 0, Sydney Olympic 4 (M Soper R Ironside A Bernal A Palmiotis og) d HEIDELBERG 0, South Melbourne 3 (A Postecoglou, P Trimboli, P Tsolakis) d St George 0, Blacktown 2 (J Van Sterk, L McKinna) d Adelaide City 1 (S Melis), Melbourne City 3 (M Dimoski 2, O Crino) d Melbourne Croatia 1 (I Kalic), Marconi 1 (B Calderan) d Preston 0.

Victorian Soccer Federations State Leagues: Morwell Falcons 2 d Bulln 0, St Alb 0 drew Heid Utd 0.

Victorian League: Div 1: Knox C 2 d Dand B, Alb 2 d Sunb Utd 0, Westg 4 d Nune C 0, Frank Pines 2 d Moorb D 2: Wav C 4 d Alt C 3, Cliff H 1 d Heid C 0, Sandr C 2 d Dono Rov 0, Ring Utd 2 d Eltham 0, Pre-Bri 3 drew Kell 2, Pt Melb 2 drew Yarrv 2, N Geelong 0 drew Dove 0. 3: Bell Pk 4 d Cob 1, Haw 2 d Seaf Utd 1, Clar 3 d Morn 1, Geelong 3 d Ham Rang 0, Lal Utd 1 d Yallourn 0, Moora C 2 d Moor Pk Rang 1, Spring Utd 3 d Corio-Geelong Utd 1 d Chel 0 drew E Brun-Ivan C 0, Bor 1 d FTG 0, Langw 1 drew Hoti Pk 1, Roa 2 d Kar Utd 1, Pas V 3 d Willm 0, Bent Greens 4 d Keys 0.

Provincial League: Div 1: Ard 1 d Ballarat S, Weston 5 d Bell C 1, Reg 1 drew Clay 1, Ole Vly Utd 4 d Pra 1, Bruns C 4 d Ballv C 0, Mooal Rang 2 d Melt 0, 2: Berw C 2 d Aex V C 0, S Yar 1 d Belm Utd 0, Springv Condors 3 drew Cran 3, Oaki Subs 3 d Ding-Skye Utd 1, Monb 1 drew E Geelong 1, Glenr 7 d Mon U 1, Wev-Mulg Utd 2 drew Lal 2. 3: For H 1 d Aex-Bl Mark 0, Brimd 2 d Melb U 1, S Spring 3 d Carr Utd 1, St K 1 drew Kana Utd 1, Ring Rov 4 d Mead Pk 0, S Dand 3 d Port Utd 2, Want v Park (postponed). 4: Deb Pk 1 d Mt Utd 0, Brand Pk 2 d Kew Eagles 0, Alt Utd 0 drew Fitz C 0.

LETER TO EDITOR

The Editor,
Soccer Star,
12 Magnolia St.,
WANTIRNA 3152

Dear Sir,
Few would question Jack Reilly's sincerity or the validity of the subject matter in your article of Soccer Star's 19th January issue.

However, Mr Reilly should not assume that he holds a monopoly on soccer's best interest and progressiveness, no matter how unfortunate was his experience and association with the past VSF Board of Management.

There are quite a number of us 'out in the field' with the same passionate love of the game and the intelligence to accept change following adequate discussion and informative reasons for such changes.

Mr Reilly states that the recommendations of the Forward Planning Committee were known some twenty months before the VSF Annual General Meeting.

I cannot speak for State and Victorian Leagues but the only information passed on to Provisional Leagues clubs was a brief statement in the PLMC minutes of October 5/87.

Quote: "Mr Reilly feels that there are too many club people involved in a semi-professional basis and the League will be strengthened and tightened by cutting back the administration."

With clubs facing the most drama tic VSF restructuring ever, this vague inadequate explanation — if correctly and fully minuted — hardly constitutes a satisfactory reason for such wholesale changes.

We move on to the VSF Board of Management meeting of 27th October 1987.

1. A minimum of seven players under the age of 20 years to be included in State and Victorian League reserve teams. Even if clubs were able to field the required number (having a large number of said players on their books in case of injuries, etc.) what was to become of those 400 plus unwanted players of age 20 years and over?

If only a handful of clubs are currently able to put out a youth team in the appropriate competition one wonders seriously about the wisdom of this innovation.

2. Leagues to be reduced to twelve clubs.

No explanation was forthcoming as how this would improve the quality of Victorian soccer. It would certainly curtail the weekend enjoyment of hundreds of players and subsequently reduce the income of affiliation fees, etc. to the VSF.

3. The restriction of non-amateur players to State and Victorian leagues 1 and 2.

Did the Forward Planning Committee envisage a mad exodus of contract players from their parent clubs to find accommation in the three top leagues?

The mechanism for wanted quality players to move to higher leagues is already in place.

The fact that many players in this category have not made such a move begs the question, why not?

Loyalty to one's club, their domestic and employment arrangements would surely take priority with most players.

In conclusion I say to Mr Reilly, with respect, that we cannot all be members of the Management Committee but that doesn't mean that we a re all narrow mindedly pursuing a 'my club first and to hell with the rest' attitude.

Some of us do have ideas that would improve the game at Nat ional and State level.

Without a voice in such proceedings, we must be content to maintain a high standard at club level.

I look forward to the day when, as you suggest, players and administrators can sit down and objectively talk over the many aspects of the game, always with the view to an improvement. On that day genuine progress will have arrived.

A.J. HITCHMAN
SECRETARY,
SOUTH DANDENONG SC

Whatever happened to Twentieth Century technology? That P/A system at the AGM was a disgrace.

Eltham-Diamond Valley Utd Soccer club

ELTHAM Soccer Club and Diamond Valley Utd. Soccer have merged to form a new club to be known as Eltham-Diamond Valley Utd Soccer Club.

The club will play in Division 3 of the Victorian League.

This move effectively brings three clubs together, Greensborough and Heidelberg who merged last year to form Diamond Valley Utd, and Eltham.

Both clubs held their AGMs within days of one another and both meetings voted to proceed with the merger unanimously.

The initial committee is composed of 6 members from each club. Amongst the office bearers are President — Alf Beer (Greensborough), Senior Vice President — Gordon Kirkwood (Eltham), Secretary — Neilson Love (Greensborough/Heidelberg) and Treasurer — Jim Dale (Heidelberg and former Grade 1 referee).

Former Melbourne Croatia player Alan Kerr has been appointed coach and training commences on Sunday 22nd January at 10.30 am at Willinda Park, Greensborough. Training will continue after that on Tuesday and Thursday at 6.30 pm and on Sundays at 10.30 am.

The junior clubs will continue in their own right as Eltham North and Greensborough and are represented on the committee by Dennis Robertson and Bob Kelly.

The club has been fortunate in receiving a donation of a new set of strips from Carlton and United Breweries and will play in a combination of the Fosters' colours of Red, White, Gold and Blue.

SNR. V. PRESIDENT
Gordon Kirkwod
Phone 342 5742 (day).

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$7 million sponsorship

WITH a $7 million sponsorship just announced for Australian Soccer, one would have every reason to believe that we could look forward at last to a season in which things would go right for a change.

By BOB BRIAN of the Melbourne Herald

Unfortunately, it would appear that the game is falling — or jumping — into the same old trap by allowing itself to be dictated to.

As usual the television companies seem to hold some kind of spell over those who run our game.

A few years ago it was SBS which decided that it would televise games at 5 o'clock on a Sunday afternoon, which either prevented potential customers going to games or made it impossible for them to go and return home to watch the soccer on television.

Either way the game missed out and it is already beginning to look as if the change from SBS to ABC made matters even worse.

Aunty appears to have decided to put games on at around 11 pm or a Sunday night when most of us are in bed.

Not only that, it appears to believe that commentators grow on trees and that no special grounding in the game is necessary.

The first recording last Sunday was a complete farce, which was inexcusable in view of the fact that it was the Friday game between St George and South Melbourne Hellas that went to air.

Almost 48 hours was obviously not enough to get things right and if that is a sign of things to come, soccer is again certain to be the loser.

It almost looked as if Heidelberg United, in the first season back in the West End National League after a stint in the State League, had set a shining example by producing a programme.

There was certainly nothing wrong with the idea.

I have long been of the opinion that all NSL clubs should be required to do this.

The only problem was that the numbers listed alongside the players' names on the programme did not correspond with the numbers they were wearing on their jerseys.

The result was that the spectators were no better off than they would have been without a programme.

Frankly, this is something the NSL should look closely at.

There is nothing to prevent all clubs giving back of their players a number which would stay with them for the whole season.

Those lists could be used by opponents to inform their supporters who was who on the field by producing a team list at all home games.

As any spectator knows there are few things more frustrating than watching a game of soccer and not knowing who is playing.

It's a simple thing, but important all the same. After all they are now being asked to pay $7 to watch a National League game.

Surely a team sheet is not too much to ask for.

★★★★★★★★★★

What's the betting on an early inclusion in the Socceroo squad for Sydney Olympic's new defender Andrew Bernal?

Although I have seen him only once — against Heidelberg United — I am of the opinion that he should be called up for the next training camp called by national coach Frank Arok.

With the loss of Charlie Yankos to Greece and the injury which will keep Gary McDowall out of action for at least four months, good, experienced defenders are badly needed.

Bernal fits the bill perfectly.

He played in Spain before moving to England where he was a regular with Ipswich in the first division.

he is big, strong, busy and talented and I have no doubts that he would fit in. Not only that, but his experience against top opposition would be invaluable.

★★★★★★★★★★

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1989

● *Back row: Soper, Barrett, Koch, Dakos, Raskopoulos, Gosling, Saad.*
Front row: Pontides, Lee, Bernal, Ironside, McCarry, Polak.

NATIONAL LEAGUE ROUND-UP

ROUND ONE DETAILS

ST.GEORGE 0 SOUTH MELBOURNE 3(Postecoglou, pen.29th,Trimboli 58th,Tsolakis 75th).
At St.George Stadium,Friday.Crowd 2650.Referee Robt.Davies.
Cautions;Ratcliffe,Bingley,Morakeas(St.George).
ST.GEORGE;Gibson-Lampropoulos,Ratcliffe,O'Shea, Morakeas - Koczka,Kakakios,Moffitt,Pottier - Ollerenshaw(Harper70th)Bingley.Coach Frank Arok.
SOUTH MELBOURNE:McLaren- Russell,Anezakis,Blair, Postecoglou-Healy(Fernandez 85th)Foster,Micheil, Tsolakis - Wright(Mori 85th),Trimboli.
Coach Brian Garvey.

HEIDELBERG UNITED 0 SYDNEY OLYMPIC 4(o.g 24th, Soper 50th,Ironside 52nd,Bernal 62nd).
At Olympic Village,Sunday.Crowd 3500.
Referee J.Fearn.
HEIDELBERG;Chatzitrifonos- Patiniotis,Lucchesi, Iliopoulos,Kanesoulis - Alagozidis,Pappas, Douglas - Theodosopoulos(Goutzioulis 28th). Stubbins,Raynes.Coach Jim Tansey.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC;Gosling - Barrett,Koch,Dakos, Bernal - Ironside,Raskopoulos,McGarry,Polak (Saad 70th)- Lee (Pontidas 70th)Soper.
Coach Eddie Thomson.

MELBOURNE CITY 3(Dimoski 32nd,37th,Crino pen.59th)
MELBOURNE CROATIA 1(Kelic 6th).
At Olympic Park,Saturday.Crowd 2,500.
Referee C.Bambridge.
MELBOURNE CITY:Nikitovic-Deankovic,van Egmond, Durakovic, Barjaktarevic - Fabrizio,Tortevski, Karic(inj.Tapai 4th),Crino- Palatsides,Dimoski. Coach Ilija Dimoski.
MELBOURNE CROATIA:Olver - Donnelly,Selemides, Hannah,Valentic - Davidson,Milosevic,Biskic, Caleta - Kelic,Awaritefe.Coach Ivan Rejnevic.

BLACKTOWN CITY 2(van Blerk 71st,McKinna 80th) ADELAIDE CITY 1 (Melta 65th).
At Gabbie Stadium,Saturday.Crowd 1250.
Referee M.O'Connell.
BLACKTOWN CITY:Londos-Northam,Sterrey,Reynolds Namouv - Divyljak (Denyer 65th),Odzakov,Meier - van Blerk,McKinna,Cavanah.Coach Wally Tamandl.
ADELAIDE CITY:Zabica - Tobin(inj.Sergecomi 68th) Naven,Flounders,Northcote- Villani,Melta, Vidmar,Clarkson - Mullen,Maxwell.
Coach Zoran Matic.

SYDNEY CROATIA 1(Ingham 80th) SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 0
At Croatian Sports Centre,Sunday.Crowd 3000.
Referee R.Lorenc.
SYDNEY CROATIA:Franken - Savor,Rozic,Hunter, Clinch -Foster,Rezo,Arnold,Krslevic(Ingham) - Lamond,Slater.Coach Vedran Rozic.
GEORGE CROSS:Keogh- Marth,Parton,Kotzamichalis, Campelj -Carter,Faulkner,McLaren(Hasler 80th), Waddell - Latif,Lewis.Coach John Gardiner.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 0 MARCONI 1(Calderan 92nd)
At Olympic Park, Sunday.Crowd 3000.
Referee J.Fraser.
PRESTON MAKEDONIA:Triainides- Soklevski, Roodhouse,Piculovski,Jolevski - Runje,Petrov, Taseski,Markovac - Spink,Smith.Coach Andon Doncevski.
MARCONI:Catlin - Carter,Calderan,De Marigny, Wheatley-Gray,McCulloch,Katholos,Lowe(Caliguri 88th) - De Jong,Nastevski.Coach Berti Mariani.

APIA LEICHHARDT 0 WOLLONGONG CITY 0
At Lambert Park.Sunday. Crowd 1200
Referee D.Willcocks.
APIA LEICHHARDT:Pezzano - Stewart,O'Connor, M.Brown,Radosavljevic,- Mason,Bundalo,Ricoy, Ellem(Phillips 62nd),R.Brown,Kosmina (Hagan 82nd).Coach Mike Urukalo.
WOLLONGONG CITY:Young - Skeen,Vlietstra, Morlando,Hollifield - Kotamanides,Stefanovski, Bonetig,Brodnik -Easthorpe,Crainie.
Coach John Fleming.

YOUTH LEAGUE RESULTS ROUND ONE

Heidelberg United Alexander v Malvern City 3-3.
Peppos (B) 1, Engelezo (C) 1, Dinas (A) 1, Alexopoulos (C) 2, Angelidis (S) 1.
Altona Gate v Clifton Hill 1-0
Asimimoski
Waverley United v Caulfield City 1-3
Gomez (A) 1, Lagadinos (G) 2, Psoronis (N) 1
Preston v Clayton 3-0
Nicolaou (D) 1, Gacovski (M) 1, Cassar (M) 1
Melbourne City v Melbourne Croatia 0- 1

This week's fixtures

National League Round Two
Thursday January 26
Melbourne Croatia v Heidelberg United
Sunshine George Cross v Preston Makedonia
South Melbourne v Sydney Croatia
Marconi v Melbourne City
Sydney Olympic v Apia Leichhardt
Wollongong City v Blacktown City
Adelaide City v St George
National League Round Three
Saturday January 28
Sunshine George Cross v Marconi
Apia Leichhardt v Melbourne Croatia
Sunday January 29
Heidelberg United v Melbourne City
Preston Makedonia v South Melbourne
Blacktown City v Sydney Olympic
St George v Wollongong City
Sydney Croatia v Adelaide City

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE ROUND TWO

Thursday January 26
Melbourne Croatia v Heidelberg United
Clayton v Melbourne City
Malvern City v Caulfield City
Waverley United v Altona Gate
Clifton Hill bye
South Melbourne bye
National Youth League Round Three
Saturday January 28
Sunshine George Cross v Clayton
Sunday January 29
Caulfield City v Melbourne Croatia
Heidelberg United v Melbourne City
Altona Gate v Malvern City
Preston Makedonia v South Melbourne
Waverley United bye
Clifton Hill bye

NSL LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SYDNEY CITY	1	1	0	0	4	0	2
SOUTH MELBOURNE	1	1	0	0	3	0	2
MELBOURNE CITY	1	1	0	0	3	1	2
BLACKTOWN CITY	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
MARCONI	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
Sydney Croatia	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
APIA Leichhardt	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Wollongong	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Adelaide City	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
George Cross	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Preston Mak.	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Melbourne Croatia	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
St George	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
Heidelberg United	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

● A disappointed Andon Doncevski of Preston walks away after his team's last-gasp defeat.

MARCONI 1989

BACK ROW: Matteo Colucci, Vince Colagiuri, fred de Jong, Peter Katholos, Robert Catlin, Steve Calderan, Paul Carter.
FRONT ROW: Zlatko Nasteveski, Jean Paul de Marigny, Robert Wheatley, David Lowe, Tommy McCulloch, Ian Gray.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Marconi snatches win

PRESTON 0
MARCONI 1
(Calderan 92nd)

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *Alan Roodhouse*

RUGGED defender Steve Calderan, voted Marconi's best and fairest player of 1988 gave his team a 1-0 victory over Preston with a last minute goal at Olympic Park.

Just when Preston's tight teamwork appeared to have paid dividends, Zlatko Nastevski prepared to take a free kick about 25 metres from goal.

He struck it powerfully and all goalkeeper Phil Traianides could do was block it, enabling Calderan to pounce on the loose ball.

Marconi the 1988 NSL champion had Preston on the defensive for most of the game due to the hard work of Ian Gray in mid-field and David Lowe in attack.

But Preston's stand-in centre-back Ian Roodhouse proved impassable, and in mid-field George Petrov and Robert Runje continually harrassed their opponents off the ball.

Peter Katholos hit the side netting for Marconi and Gray blasted a back-heeled pass from Lowe over the bar during Marconi's most productive moments.

However, Preston also produced flashes of attacking flair as striker Steven Smith came close with a header and Robert Markovac put the ball into the net only to be ruled off-side.

GEORGIE THWARTED

SYDNEY CROATIA
1 (Ingham 80th)
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 0

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *Graham Arnold*

SUBSTITUTE striker, Sean Ingham, earned Sydney Croatia the points with an eightieth minute goal in a hard fought National Soccer League first round 1-0 win over Sunshine George Cross at the Croation Sports Centre.

With a scoreless draw well on the cards, Croatia's Robbie Slater made an incisive break up the right flank. Ingham sensed the scoring opportunity and raced in close to neatly slip the ball past Sunshine goalkeeper Sean Keogh.

Apart from a run of sustained Croatia pressure early in the second half, the well-drilled George Cross defence and mid-field held their opponents under a tight rein.

Using new strikers Paul Lewis and Ossie Latif at the front, Sunshine's extra mid-field man helped to block many of Croatia's best moves.

Croatia's player coach Vedran Rozic said afterwards "They stayed back and are a very hard team eat.

"Our only chance was to go round them, and finally we made the break."

Sunshine coach John Gardiner said his team had improved tremendously since its recent Buffalo Cup game.

"We are chasing another mid-fielder in order to put more pressure on our present players," he said.

Croatia's Socceroo striker Graham Arnold produced four perfect through balls to harrass the Sunshine defence in an excellent exhibition. For George Cross John Campelj showed to best advantage.

OLYMPIC EATS BERGERS

HEIDELBERG
UNITED 0
SYDNEY OLYMPIC
4 (o.g. 24th, Soper
50th, Ironside
52nd, Bernal 62nd)

SYDNEY Olympic ruined Heidelberg United's return to the National Soccer League with a 4-0 thrashing at Olympic Village on Sunday.

An impressive Olympic side sent out a loud warning to other title contenders that it will surely be deeply involved in the silverware race.

As for Heidelberg, judging by this performance it could well be a very long season, even though it ends in July.

Olympic clearly dominated in every department and showed signs of championship material.

Heidelberg striker Lou Theodosopoulos had an opportunity in the eleventh minute to score in this Greek Derby.

However, Sydney Olympic's 'keeper Clint Gosling did very well to smother the ball at the feet of the striker.

Twenty-four minutes into the game Sydney Olympic hit the lead thanks to an own goal from Heidelberg full-back, Arther Patiniotis.

In an attempt to clear his lines Patiniotis back-headed the ball into his own goal after Olympic's Peter Raskopoulos crossed the ball from the right.

Three minutes later Gosling pulled off an excellent save from Heidel-berg's Kon Pappas, who shot from eight yards out after Theodosopoulos had laid the ball square.

In the second half Olympic showed no mercy and punished the inexperienced Heidelberg side.

Within a minute from the re-start Olympic forward Grant Lee hit the crossbar with a diving header.

Four minutes later came another Olympic goal.

A great run down the right wing by Olympic's Mike Garry followed up by a delicate cross found Marshal Soper who headed the ball down towards the goal.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *Peter Raskopoulos*

Heidelberg 'keeper Mike Chatzitrifonos could only parry the effort but couldn't stop Soper following the ball through and bundling it across the goal-line.

Only two minutes had gone by when Robert Ironside rose high above the defence to head a Raskopoulos free-kick into the bottom left hand corner of the net.

Andrew Bernal back in Australia from a stint with English Second Division Club, Ipswich Town, managed to score on his debut.

The ball smashed against the woodwork and Bernal was quick off the mark to score goal number four, which helped to place the Sydney side on top of the WENSL ladder after the opening round.

OUT SOON
VICSOCCER '88
VICTORIA'S SOCCER YEAR IN PICTURES

MELBOURNE CITY
3 (Dimoski 32nd,
37th, Crino pen.
59th)
MELBOURNE
TIA 1 (Kelic 6th)

CROATIA GETS 'BLUES'

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *Ernie Tapai*

ON Saturday night at Olympic Park, Melbourne City had a dream start to the new season by defeating Melbourne Croatia 3-1.

In front of a huge police presence Milan Dimoski emerged as the hero of the hour by scoring twice and no doubt pleasing his father, Melbourne City coach Illija Dimoski.

In a match that was forecast to have more action off the pitch than on it, the crowd behaved itself and the Croatian supporters were rewarded with a sixth minute goal from Ivan Kelic.

Kelic, who was making his debut, scored the opening goal of the game from six yards out in a packed penalty area, after a corner fell nicely for him.

Melbourne Croatia dominated the opening quarter of an hour, but slowly and surely Melbourne City fought its way back into the game and eventually ran away with the points.

Two minutes after the Croatia goal City came desperately close to equalizing.

Oscar Crino curled a splendid free-kick around the defensive wall and on to the post but Dimoski following up the rebound could only head wide.

Dimoski's moment of glory arrived however in the 32nd minute of the first-half.

A Crino drive was blocked only as far as Dimoski who side-footed the ball into the roof of the net.

Five minutes later Melbourne took a deserved lead with Dimoski again being the scorer.

Ernie Tapai, a player who played impressively well, supplied the cross from the right to Dimoski whose header sneaked in at the far post.

In the second-half the trend continued.

As Croatia lost their puff and sense of direction, City extended the lead.

Oscar Crino crossed a ball into the penalty area from the left wing which was won by new signing Joe Palatsides.

Palatsides took on the Croatia defence and was fouled by Croatia's captain, Josep Biskic.

Crino stepped up to convert the spot-kick sending fellow Socceroo 'keeper Jeff Olver the wrong way, and going on to celebrate with the famous "aeroplane run".

— COSTA KOUTROPOULOS

ROTHMANS HITS BACK

Rothmans has been quick to react to Saturday's announcement of non-tabaco sponsorship to Soccer.

In a Press release yesterday, Rothmans' Director of Industry Affairs, Mr. Peter Alexander claimed that the ASF has not yet formally advised the company of its intentions.

"We shall be seeking legal advice on the ASF's reported intention to drop the sponsorship half way through our agreement.

"Rothmans accepts that it is any sport's right to seek sponsorship whereever it can, but just the same, agreements should be honoured" he said.

ASF Chairman Ian Brusasco said a letter from the ASF requesting Rothmans to release Soccer from its contract was already on its way to the company.

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QUARTER-FINALS

SOUTH MELBOURNE 6 (Wright 46th,63rd,67th, Tsolakis 70th,Trimboli 73rd,Mori 93rd) CROYDON CITY 0
At Olympic Park,Wednesday.Crowd 2500(Double-header).Referee J Fearn.
SOUTH MELBOURNE;McLaren - Russell,Anezakis, Blair(Fernandez 37th),Postecoglou-Healy,Foster, Tsiakos(inj.Trimboli 6th),Micheil - Tsolakis, Wright(Mori 76th).Coach Brian Garvey.
CROYDON CITY;M Runje - Langsbury,Dobson,Cubitt, Roodhouse - Brown,G Runje,van Egmond,Flavell - Humble,Brimmer.Coach Ian Dobson.

HEIDELBERG UNITED 1(Raynes 93rd) MELBOURNE CROATIA 0
At Olympic Park,Wednesday.RefereeJ Santa Isabel.
HEIDELBERG UNITED;Chatzitrifonos - Patiniotis, Lucchesi,Iliopoulos,Kanesoulis - Douglas,Pappas, Theodosopoulos- Alagozidis,Stubbins(Goutzioulis 77th),Raynes.Coach Jim Tansey.
MELBOURNE CROATIA;Olver - Valentic, Selemides, Hannah,Jurcic(Kelic 100th) - Donnelly,Davidson, Biskic,Milosevic - Caleta,Awaritefe(Grbac HT). Coach Ivan Rejnavic.

SEMI-FINALS DRAW

MELBOURNE CITY JUST v HEIDELBERG UNITED
SOUTH MELBOURNE v PRESTON MAKEDONIA

On Wednesday,February 1 at Olympic Park
K.O first game 6.45pm,followed by second game.
Prices:$6,Pensioners $2,Children U/16 free.

HEIDELBERG v CROATIA

A GOAL in extra time by Willie Raynes secured a 1-0 victory for Heidelberg United against Melbourne Croatia in the Quarter-final of the Buffalo Cup last Wednesday night.

The game began in sensational fashion when referee John Santa Isabel awarded a penalty to Melbourne Croatia after Heidelberg's Claude Lucchesi fouled Joe Caletta in the penalty area within a minute of the kick-off.

The opportunity to take the lead was squandered by Melbourne Croatia's Branko Milosevic who booted the ball high over the bar.

Although Melbourne Croatia started the game on a high note this was not to be the case for the rest of the match as Heidelberg soon found its footing and dominated the entire night.

In the 18th minute of the first half Heidelberg striker Lou Theodosopoulos, came close to putting his name on the score sheet. After pouncing on a through ball Theodosopoulos turned between two defenders and hit a shot just narrowly wide.

The action continued in the first-half when Croatia's Joe Caleta let loose a sweet volley forcing Heidelberg 'keeper Mike Chatzitrifonos to fall quickly and parry the shot away for a corner.

Eight minutes into the second half an interception by Willie Raynes caught the Croatian side on the break.

As Raynes sped down the left wing a cross was delivered for Phil Stubbins.

Stubbins flicked the ball with the outside of the boot bringing the best out of Socceroo 'keeper Jeff Olver, who turned the ball around the post for a corner.

Both teams searched for a winner — however the scores remained locked at 0-0, forcing the encounter into extra time.

Only three minutes into the extra-time period the match was settled.

Heidelberg's Aki Alagozidis made a run from the halfway line and passed the ball to substitute Angie Boutzioulis on the right wing, who cut inside the box and shot straight across the face of the goal.

The ball fell for Raynes who was anticipating the shot from the opposite wing.

From an acute angle Raynes sidefooted the ball into the back of the net, simultaneously knocking Croatia out of the tournament.

●●●●●●●●●●

SOUTH MELBOURNE v CROYDON

South Melbourne handed out a 6-0 drubbing t State League side Croydon City in the second game of the double-header of the Buffalo Cup at Olympic Park last Wednesday night.

Croydon City managed to keep up with the pace during the scoreless first-half, but fell away badly in the second forty-five minute period as South Melbourne ran riot.

A hat-trick by South's Danny Wright set South Melbourne on the road to victory, whilst bringing Croydon's Buffalo Cup campaign to an abrupt end.

The onslaught begun in the 46th minute when Paul Trimboli squared a ball for Danny Wright to sidefoot into the net from only six yards out.

Then in a nine minute spell South piled on the pressure and scored four more times.

In the 63rd minute Danny Wright scored his second goal when the Croydon defence failed to clear.

The ball rolled to Wright whose sliding shot sneaked inside the post from the right.

Four minutes later Wright completed his hat-trick with a beautiful goal.

A move involving Trimboli and Haris Micheil paved the way for Wright to tease the Croydon defence then let fly with a curling shot "a la Brazil" which flew into the back of the net from 18 metres out.

Three minutes later Peter Tsolakis made a welcome return to the South Melbourne line-up by adding goal number four.

Paul Foster turned inside the box and crossed the ball to the far post, finding Tsolakis on his own, and he sidefooted the ball home.

In the 72nd minute the best player on the ground, Paul Trimboli, scored a brilliant goal.

Trimboli picked up a loose ball in a scrambled goalmouth, weaved his way through the congested area and planted a left foot shot into the left hand corner of the net.

Thus further extending Souy's lead. In the 81st minute substitute, Damien Mori put the icing on the cake with the sixth and final goal.

Mori made a run around the back of the Croydon defence and received a pass from Trimboli.

When Mori won the ball from a challenging defender he had only Croydon 'keeper Mirko Runje to beat.

A left foot chip that skimmed the underside of the bar landed safely in the back of the net.

Two minutes before the final whistle a long throw by Croydon's Goran Runje into the penalty box was met with a Steve Brimmer header which deceived South 'keeper Bruce McLaren and bounced off the top of the crossbar.

That laid to rest any hope of a consolation goal and ending a miserable night for Croydon.

— Costa Koutropoulos

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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RE-SHUFFLE

The League's Annual General Meeting held in November last resulted in a re-organisation of portfolios. Due to work commitments, Ron Wallace stepped down from the position of Secretary, which he had held since 1985, and was replaced in that role by Jim Williams.

Jim came on to the Committee at the beginning of the 1988 year, but will be better known to his many fans as the former live-wire Secretary of the Mooroolbark Soccer Club.

Much-travelled Senior Vice-President, George Yelland, will resume his world travels in 1989 (Alby Mangels has nothing on this man!) and stood down in the interests of maintaining continuity in the top jobs.

He was replaced in this role by the existing Junior Vice-President, Bill Anderson. Bill is in his fourth year on the Management Committee, but will be better known in Scottish and Victorian soccer circles as a former FIFA and Grade 1 referee of many years standing.

Moving up into the Junior Vice-Presidency is Dr Bill Brickell, who joined the Management Committee at the beginning of the 1988 year, and is also a well-known and much respected whistleman.

The remaining members of the Management Committee are Barry Horsfall, who enters the second year of his two-year term as President, John Manson, re-elected as Treasurer, and Colin Tuffield and George Yelland re-appointed as Comittee members.

The League's Management Committee has the constitutional authority to appoint an eighth member, known as the Appointed Committee Member, and is in the process of canvassing outstanding candidates.

Commenting on the structure of the 1989 Management Committee, the President, Mr Barry Horsfall, stated that its members all had outstanding credentials in their roles, and were obviously capable of sustaining and increasing the momentum which the League had built up over the last few years.

He assured Delegates that the hands-on consultative role which the Committee had adopted during his first year as President would be maintained.

"We are a visible Committee," he said. "You will see us at your matches and at any of your functions to which we are invited.

"It is essential," he added, "that we do meet you on your own turf, if we are to have a proper understanding of your ambitions and problems, and so that you and your members can better understand what our aims for the long-term development of the League involve."

★★★★★★★★★★

COOLAROO ON THE MOVE

Coolaroo is among the more rapidly growing suburbs in the north-west.

Its growth has outstripped the provision of sporting and community clubs in the area and, as in so many of the new suburbs, the development of facilities lags behind population growth.

One of the new clubs admitted to the League for the 1989 season, Coolaroo United, will cater to some of this need.

Headed by live-wire President, mark Dean, and enthusiastic Secretary, Moira Lafferty, this new club seems set to draw on the areas largely untapped soccer tallent. Its Committee has enthusiastic plans for future development and is confident of fast and exciting growth.

Any local soccer enthusiast withing to join a new club with a bright future should contact Mark on 302 1603 (evenings).

★★★★★★★★★★

SICILIANS SURGE AHEAD

Buoyed by an outstanding first season in which it ran away with the Division 4 Championship and the Top Four Competitors, Flemington Floridia is aiming high in 1989.

Having formed a second team, it will enter the Division 2 Afternoon Competition.

Its management, headed by Joe Valentino and Sebastian Gargante, is more than confident that its recruiting drive in the Close Season reflects not merely quantity but quality, and that it will positively terrify some of its more experienced competition during the 1989 Championship season.

Further down the track, the club is looking to become a major force on the soccer scene, and is already looking to acquiring its own sporting complex.

If the dedication and ambition of the members of its sponsoring body, the Floridia Club of Dflemington, social home of Victoria's Sicilian population, is anything to go by, the soccer wing can certainly look forward to a bright future.

★★★★★★★★★★

NORTHERN CROSS ST HELENA

Maltese-based Northern Cross St Helena is another club with ambitions to get on in the world.

It, too, has recruited well during the off-season and will move up to Division 2 in 1989.

Under new management (Paul Bugeja, President, and Tina Grech, Secretary), this club, which has been a member of the League for several years, is determined that its time in the minor divisions is gone for good.

Division 3 East Champions in 1987, Northern Cross fell on hard times during 1988 when it transferred to Division 3 West, but fought on well in the latter half of the season to finish in sixth position.

With the infusion of new blood at the top, there is no reason why the club should not enjoy a rosy future.

★★★★★★★★★★

FLAMINGO FLYING HIGH

One of the League's more progressive clubs is the Mauritian-backed Flamingo.

Not only that, but on its day the club's highly skilled players can put on a really thrilling spectacle.

The club did well in 1988, finishing in fourth place in Division 2A and as Runners-up in Division 2A Reserves.

Looking to do well in 1989, in the light of almost certain promotion to Division 1, Flamingo kicked off its 1989 campaign last Saturday night with a social night at the Gaelic Sports Club, attended by some 500 people.

The highlight of the evening was a folk-dancing exhibition compered by Serge le Brasse, the father of folk music in his beloved Mauritius.

An interesting post on the club's Committee, and one which could be copied by many another club, is that of Public Relations Officer, at present held down by the effervescent Ricardo Balancy.

Anyone wanting more information about this progressive club, which caters for many more activities than soccer, can contact Ricardo on 794 7071.

LEAGUE CALENDAR 1989

April	9	League Championship	Round 1
16			2
			3
	23		
	30	Mansfield Bunney Cups Qualifying Round	
May	7	League Championship	Round 4
	7		
May	7	League Championship	Round 4
	14		5
	21		6
		Mansfield Bunney Cups	Round 1
28			
June	4	League Championship	Round 7
	11	Break for Country Championships, Bendigo	
	18	League Championship	Round 8
	25		9
July	2	Mansfield Bunney Cups	Round 2
	9	League Championship	Round 10
	16		11
	23		12
	30	Mansfield Bunney Cups	Round 3
August	6	League Championship	Round 13
	13		14
	20		15
	27	Mansfield Bunney Cups	Round 4
September	3	League Championship	Round 16
	10		17
	17		18
	24	Top Four	Round 1
October	1	***MANSFIELD BUNNEY CUP FINALS***	
	8	Top Four	Round 2
	15	***TOP FOUR FINALS***	

Pre-Season Meeting — Wednesday, March 22
Presentation Night — Saturday, October 21st.
Annual General Meeting — Wednesday, November 15th.

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1989 Victorian League Division Three

ROUND 1
Saturday 1st April
Bell Park v Chelsea
Yallourn v Holland P
Moorabbin C v Eltham/Diamond Valley Utd
Clarinda v Mornington
Altona City v Hawthorn
Lalor Un v Corio/Geelong United
Seafoed Un v Springv Un

ROUND 2
Saturday, 8th April
Corio/Geelong Un v Seaford United
Altona City v Lalor United
Mornington v Hawthorn
Eltham/Diamond Valley United v Clarinda
Holland Park v Moorabbin City
Springv Un v Bell Park
Chelsea v Yallourn

ROUND 3
Saturday 15th April
Yallourn v Bell Park
Moorabbin C v Chelsea
Clarinda v Holland P
Hawthorn v Eltham/Diamond Valley United
Lalor United v Mornington
Seaford Un v Altona C
Corio/Geelong Un v Springvale Un

ROUND 4
Saturday 22nd April
Altona C v Corio/Geelong Utd
Morningt v Seaford Un
Eltham/Diamond Valley Utd v Lalor Utd
Holland P v Hawthorn
Springv Utd v Yallourn
Chelsea v Clarinda
Bell Park v Moorabbin C

ROUND 5
Saturday 29th April
Moorabbin C v Yallourn
Clarinda v Bell Park
Hawthorn v Chelsea
Lalor Utd v Holland P
Seaford Utd v Eltham/Diamond V Utd
Corio/Geelong Utd v Mornington
Altona C v Springv Utd

ROUND 6
Saturday 6th May
Mornington v Altona C
Eltham/Diamond V Utd v Corio/Geelong Utd
Holland P v Seaford Utd
Springv Utd v Moorabbin City
Chelsea v Lalor Utd
Bell Park v Hawthorn
Yallourn v Clarinda

ROUND 7
Saturday 13th May
Clarinda v Moorabbin C
Hawthorn v Yallourn
Lalor Utd v Bell Park
Seaford Utd v Chelsea
Corio/Geelong Utd v Holland Park
Altona City v Eltham/Dia Valley Utd
Mornington v Springv Utd

ROUND 8
Saturday 20th May
Eltham/Diamond Valley Utd v Mornington
Holland P v Altona C
Springv Utd v Clarinda
Chelsea v Corio/Geelong Utd
Bell Park v Seaford Utd
Yallourn v Lalor Utd
Moorabbin C v Hawthorn

ROUND 9
Saturday 27th May
Hawthorn v Clarinda
Lalor Utd v Moorabbin C
Seaford Utd v Yallourn
Corio/Geelong Utd v Bell Park
Altona C v Chelsea
Mornington v Holland P
Eltham/Dia Valley Utd v Springvale Utd

ROUND 10
Saturday 3rd June
Holland Park v Eltham/Dia Valley Utd
Springv Utd v Hawthorn
Chelsea v Mornington
Bell Park v Altona City
Yallour v Corio/Geelong Utd
Moorabbin C v Seaford Utd
Clarinda v Lalor Utd

ROUND 11
Saturday 10th June
(Queens Birthday)
Lalor Utd v Hawthorn
Seaford Utd v Clarinda
Corio/Geelong Utd v Moorabbin C
Altona City v Yallourn
Mornington v Bell Park
Eltham/Dia Valley Utd v Chelsea
Holland P v Springv Utd

ROUND 12
Saturday 17th June
Springv Utd v Lalor Utd
Chelsea v Holland P
Bell Park v Eltham/Dia Valley Utd
Yallourn v Mornington
Moorabbin C v Altona C
Clarinda v Corio/Geelong Utd
Hawthorn v Seaford Utd

ROUND 13
Saturday 24th June
Seaford Utd v Lalor Utd
Corio/Glong Utd v Hawt.
Mornington v Moobin C
Eltham/Dia Valley Utd v Yallourn
Holland P v Bell Park
Springv Utd v Chelsea
Clarinda v Altona C

ROUND 14
Saturday 1st July
Chelsea v Bell Park
Holland Park v Yallourn
Eltham/Dia Valley Utd v Moorabbin C
Mornington v Clarinda
Hawthorn v Altona City
Corio/Geelong Utd v Lalor Utd
Springv Utd v Seaford Utd

ROUND 15
Saturday 8th July
Seaford Utd v Corio/Geelong Utd
Lalor Utd v Altona C
Hawthorn v Mornington
Clarinda v Eltham/Diamond Valley Utd
Moorabbin C v Holland P
Bell P v Springv Utd
Yallourn v Chelsea

ROUND 16
Saturday 15th July
Bell Park v Yallourn
Chelsea v Moorabbin C
Holland Park v Clarinda
Eltham/Dia Valley Utd v Hawthorn
Mornington v Lalor Utd
Altona C v Seaford Utd
Springv Utd v Corio/Geelong Utd

ROUND 17
Saturday 22nd July
Corio/Geelong Utd v Altona City
Seaford Utd v Mornington
Lalor Utd v Eltham/Dia Valley Utd
Hawthorn v Holland P
Yallourn v Springv Utd
Clarinda v Chelsea
Moorabbin C v Bell P

ROUND 18
Saturday 29th July
Yallourn v Moorabbin C
Bell Park v Clarinda
Chelsea v Hawthorn
Holland P v Lalor Utd
Eltham/Dia Valley Utd v Seaford Utd
Mornington v Corio/Geelong Utd
Springv Utd v Altona City

ROUND 19
Saturday 5th August
Altona C v Mornington
Corio/Geelong Utd v Eltham/Dia V Utd
Seaford Utd v Holland P
Moorbin C v Springv Utd
Lalor Utd v Chelsea
Hawthorn v Bell park
Clarinda v Yallourn

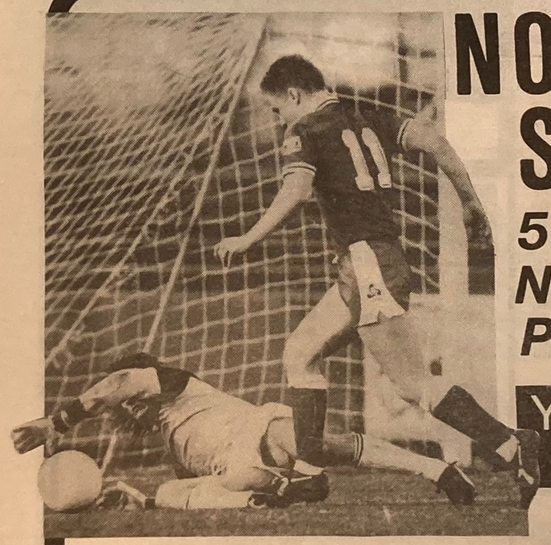
ROUND 20
Saturday 12th August
Moorabbin C v Clarinda
Yallourn v Hawthorn
Bell P v Lalor Utd
Chelsea v Seaford Utd
Holland P v Corio/Geelong Utd
Eltham/Dia V Utd v Altona City
Springv Utd v Mornington

ROUND 21
Saturday 19th August
Mornington v Eltham/Dia V Utd
Altona C v Holland P
Clarinda v Springv Utd
Corio/Geelong Utd v Chelsea
Seaford Utd v Bell P
Lalor Utd v Yallourn
Hawthorn v Moorabbin C

ROUND 22
Saturday 26th August
Clarinda v Hawthorn
Moorabbin C v Lalor Utd
Yallourn v Seaford Utd
Bell Park v Corio/Geelong Utd
Chelsea v Altona C
Holland P v Mornington
Springv Utd v Eltham/Dia V Utd

ROUND 23
Saturday 2nd September
Eltam/Dia V Utd v Holland Park
Hawthorn v Springv Utd
Mornington v Chelsea
Altona C v Bell P
Corio/Geelong Utd v Yallourn
Seaford Utd v Moorabbin C
Lalor Utd v Clarinda

● Continued P. 13



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ROUND 24
Saturday 9th September
Hawthorn v Lalor Utd
Clarinda v Seaford Utd
Moorabbin C v Corio/Geelong Utd
Yallourn v Altona C
Bell Park v Mornington
Chelsea v Eltham/Dia V Utd
Springv Utd v Holland P

ROUND 25
Saturday 16th September
Lalor Utd v Springv Utd
Holland P v Chelsea
Eltham/Dia V Utd v Bell Park
Mornington v Yallourn
Altona C v Moorabbin C
Corio/Geelong Utd v Clarinda
Seaford Utd v Hawthorn

ROUND 26
Saturday 23rd September
Lalor Utd v Seaford Utd
Hawthorn v Corio/Geelong Utd
Moorabbin C v Mornington
Yallourn v Eltham/Dia V Utd
Bell P v Holland P
Chelsea v Springv Utd
Altona C v Clarinda

Please note that the following matches in the following rounds have been reversed due to the fact the Altona City will be holding the U/14 Regional Championships on the weekends of June 24th and 25th and July 1st and 2nd.

ROUNDS 1-14
Hawthorn v Altona C
ROUNDS 13-26
Altona City v Clarinda

Transfer-listed Players

Brunswick United Juventus SC	
Brian Brown	$10,000.00
JohnJohn Yzendoorn	$15,000.00
Fabio Incantalupo	$15,000.00
Peter Lewis	$ 8,000.00
Reno Minichiello	$15,000.00
Mehmet Durakovic	$35,000.00
Gino Colarco	$ 2,000.00
Tony Palleschi	$ 3,500.00
Joe Montemurro	$3,500.00
Bulleen SC	
Brian Keenan	$ 2,000.00
Fawkner SC	
Douglas Brown	$ 8,000.00 S/L or lower $12,000.00 N/L
Robert Cullen	$ 6,000.00
Richard Wilson	$ 5,000.00 Negotiable
Eddie Campbell	$ 8,000.00 Negotiable
Heidelberg United SC	
Yakka Banovic	$15,000.00
Morwell Falcons SC	
Gerard Bennett	$ 1,100.00
Iain Stirton	$ 7,000.00
John O'Callaghan	$ 4,500.00 Negotiable
Stan Webster	$ 3,000.00 Negotiable
Port Melbourne S.C.	
George Karypidis	$ 1,500.00
Springvale City SC	
Ian Loughnane	$ 1,250.00
Robert Morrey	$ 2,000.00
Robert Stewart	$ 2,000.00 S/L or lower $ 3,000.00 N/L
Williamstown SC	
Slobodan Janovic	$ 2,000.00
Slobodan Sainovic	$ 1,500.00
Milutin Ciric	$ 2,000.00 G/K
Sasa Ilic	Negotiable G/K
Francesco Borgno	Negotiable
Venco Bozinovski	Negotiable
Anthony Sterpon	Negotiable
Nedeljko Mudrinic	$ 800.00
Vasko Stojcevski	$ 500.00

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● Marconi goalkeeper Bob Catlin plucks a corner out of the air, surrounded by his anxious defenders.

● Melbourne Croatia's Ivan Kelic has scored on his NSL debut and are his team mates pleased.

● BOTTOM LEFT: Preston's Billy Piculovski soars to head clear of Marconi's Zlatko Nastevski.

● LEFT: Jean Paul de Marigny of Marconi battles with Preston's Robert Marcovic.

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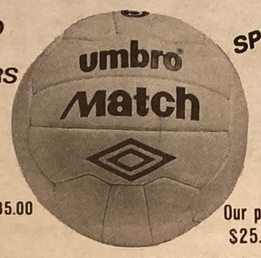

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OVERSEAS NEWS

UK RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Arsenal 1 Sheffield Wednesday 1, Coventry 2 Wimbledon 1, Liverpool 2 Southampton 0, Luton 1 Everton 0, Middlesbrough 2 Tottenham 2, Newcastle 0 Charlton 2, Nottingham Forest 4 Aston Villa 0, Queen's Park Rangers 0 Derby 1, West Ham 1 Manchester United 3. Playing tonight: Millwall v Norwich

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	21	13	5	3	46	22	44
Norwich	21	10	8	3	30	22	38
Coventry	22	10	6	6	31	22	36
Liverpool	22	9	8	5	28	18	35
Notts Fst	22	8	10	4	31	24	34
Manch Utd	22	8	9	5	31	19	33
Millwall	20	9	6	5	30	24	33
Derby	21	8	5	7	23	16	32
Everton	21	8	6	7	26	23	30
Middlesbro	21	8	5	8	28	24	29
Wimbledon	21	8	4	9	25	28	28
Tottenham	22	6	8	8	24	26	26
Luton	22	6	8	8	24	26	26
Aston Vill	22	6	8	8	31	26	26
Southampt	22	6	8	8	24	28	26
Q.P.R.	22	6	8	10	23	22	24
Charlton	22	6	5	11	24	32	23
Sheff Wed	21	5	8	8	18	29	23
West Ham	22	4	5	13	19	34	17
Newcastle	22	4	5	13	17	40	17

DIVISION TWO

Barnsley 4 Oldham 3, Birmingham 2 Watford 3, Blackburn 1 Chelsea 1, Bournemouth 0 Sunderland 1, Bradford 0, Brighton 1, Crystal Palace 2 Swindon 1, Ipswich 5 Stoke 1, Manchester City 4 Hull 1, Oxford 3 Leeds 2, Plymouth 2 Walsall 0, Portsmouth 2 Shrewsbury 0, West Bromwich 1 Leicester 1

Chelsea	26	13	9	4	49	27	48
Watford	26	14	5	7	48	25	47
Manch City	26	13	8	5	38	24	47
W.B.A.	26	12	9	5	44	24	45
Blackburn	26	13	5	8	42	37	44
Sunderland	26	10	10	6	36	27	40
Ipswich	26	10	7	10	41	33	40
Barnsley	26	11	7	8	36	34	40
Cryst Pal	25	10	8	7	33	29	38
Portsmouth	26	10	8	8	37	32	38
Leeds	26	9	10	7	31	25	37
Bournemth	26	11	4	11	28	31	37
Stoke	26	10	7	9	32	33	37
Leicester	26	9	8	9	33	35	36
Plymouth	26	10	6	10	33	36	36
Swindon	25	8	10	7	33	32	34
Hull	26	8	8	10	34	39	32
Bradford	26	7	10	9	26	31	31
Oxford	26	8	6	12	32	40	30
Brighton	26	8	4	14	36	43	28
Oldham	26	5	9	12	34	45	24
Shrewsbury	26	4	11	11	21	38	23
Birmingham	26	3	7	16	21	50	16
Walsall	26	2	8	16	21	44	14

DIVISION THREE

Aldershot 1 Bristol Rovers 3, Blackpool 1 Preston 0, Bolton 1 Reading 1, Bristol City 0 Chester 1, Fulham 1 Mansfield 1, Huddersfield 1 Cardiff 0, Northampton 1 Notts County 3, Port Vale 1 Bury 3, Sheffield United 4 Gillingham 2, Swansea 2 Southend 0, Wigan 1 Brentford 1, Wolverhampton 1 Chesterfield 0

Wolves	25	17	5	3	57	26	56
Port Vale	23	14	4	5	48	24	46
Swansea	25	12	8	5	36	26	44
Sheff Utd	23	13	3	7	52	31	42
Brist Rov	24	11	8	5	43	30	41
Bury	25	12	5	8	40	32	41
Fulham	25	11	6	8	36	30	39
Chester	25	11	6	8	39	41	39
Preston	25	10	7	8	38	33	37
Brentford	24	9	8	7	34	30	35
Huddersfld	24	10	4	10	29	34	34
Reading	24	9	6	9	37	36	33
Brist City	24	9	6	9	27	27	33
Mansfield	24	7	11	6	28	32	32
Bolton	25	8	7	10	34	32	31
Blackpool	24	6	10	8	30	28	28
Cardiff	22	7	7	8	27	28	28
Notts City	24	6	9	9	27	30	27
Wigan	26	6	8	12	30	37	26
Northampt	25	8	1	16	34	42	25
Southend	25	6	7	12	29	45	25
Chesterfld	24	6	5	15	20	52	23
Gillingham	24	5	7	12	25	43	20
Aldershot	24	4	7	13	21	45	19

DIVISION FOUR

Crewe 2 Leyton Orient 1, Doncaster 1 Rotherham 0, Grimsby 4 Cambridge 0, Hartlepool 3 Lincoln 2, Hereford 1 Scunthorpe 2, Peterborough 1 Carlisle 4, Rochdale 2 Burnley 1, Tranmere 1 Scarborough 1, Wrexham 3 Exeter 0, York 2 Colchester 0

Rotherham	25	12	8	5	42	20	44
Crewe	24	12	8	4	34	24	44
Wrexham	24	11	9	4	48	34	42
Scarboro	24	11	8	5	38	24	41
Tranmere	24	10	9	5	30	24	39
Scunthorpe	25	10	9	6	40	30	39
Torquay	24	10	7	7	30	29	37
Exeter	24	11	3	10	36	37	36
Lincoln	24	10	5	9	39	38	35
Cambridge	24	10	5	9	39	38	35
Doncaster	25	9	7	9	31	42	34
Stockport	25	8	10	7	33	24	34
Barnsley	24	9	6	9	34	34	33
Hartlepool	24	9	6	9	25	32	33
Halifax	24	10	2	12	49	46	32
Ley Orient	24	8	7	9	40	28	31
Rochdale	25	8	7	10	34	37	31
York	24	8	6	10	32	37	30
Grimsby	24	7	8	9	31	33	29
Carlisle	25	7	8	10	31	33	29
Peterboro	25	7	6	12	28	42	27
Hereford	24	6	7	11	32	40	25
Darlington	24	2	12	10	27	43	18
Colchester	24	3	7	14	27	51	15

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Dundee United 0 Hearts 0, Hibernian 1 Celtic 3, Motherwell 0 Aberdeen 2, Rangers 3 Dundee 1, St Mirren 1 Hamilton 0

Rangers	25	17	3	5	41	10	37
Dundee Utd	25	13	9	3	35	12	35
Celtic	25	12	8	5	33	22	32
Aberdeen	25	10	12	3	32	22	32
Hibernian	25	10	7	8	32	27	27
St Mirren	25	9	6	10	27	34	24
Hearts	25	5	10	10	22	30	20
Dundee	25	5	9	11	22	30	19
Motherwell	25	4	8	13	22	36	16
Hamilton	25	3	2	20	13	54	8

DIVISION ONE

Airdrieonians 0 Dunfermline 2, Clyde 1 Meadowbank 2, Clydebank 3 Partick 2, Kilmarnock 2 Forfar 1, Queen of the South 0 Ayr 2, Raith 1 Morton 0, St Johnstone 2 Falkirk 1

DIVISION TWO

Arbroath 0 Albion 3, Berwick 1 Alloa 1, Cowdenbeath 2 Queen's Park 2, Montrose 0 East Stirling 1, Stenhousemuir 1 East Fife 1, Stirling 1 Dumberton 1, Stranraer 0 Brechin 1

NORTHERN IRISH LEAGUE

Ards 0 Coleraine 2, Carrick 1 Linfield 3, Crusaders 1 Portadown 3, Glenavon 3 Distillery 2, Glentoran 2 Cliftonville 2

ABC TV IS NBG

● Cont. From P. 1

The ASF and the NSL should be ashamed of themselves for turning their backs on SBS, the station that has done so much for soccer... surely it isn't too late for a change of heart.

NSL Chairman Sam Papasavas says he was disappointed, but says some teething problems are inevitable.

He points out that the programme is to be scheduled for both Saturday and Sunday nights at 5 pm, which of course means that I and all the others who work in the game won't see it again.

I don't know whether that is good news or bad.

London, Sunday

Paul Merson saved Arsenal some embarrassment with a 74th-minute equaliser to earn the English first division leader a 1-1 draw with struggling Sheffield Wednesday yesterday.

Arsenal looked like paying a heavy price for a crop of missed chances when Imre Varadi scored from Wednesday's first threatening attack 15 minutes into the second half.

But Merson, with his 10th goal in 13 matches, stretched to six points the Gunners' lead over second-placed Norwich.

Defending Liverpool cruised to a 2-0 win over Southampton. John Aldridge and Ian Rush scored the goals in a four-minute spell in the second half and it now trails Arsenal by nine points.

Nottingham Forest beat Aston Villa 4-0, while Coventry maintained its challenge for the title with a 2-1 home win over Wimbledon. Manchester United, another of Arsenal's pursuers, came from behind to score its first win over West Ham at Upton Park for 21 years.

In Scotland, Hearts held Dundee United to a goalless draw in the premier league. Rangers, comfortable 3-1 winners over Dundee, now lead the table with 37 points, two ahead of United.

Glasgow Celtic kept alive its hopes of retaining the title with a 3-1 win at Hibernian.

The Libyan Soccer Federation has apologised to FIFA, the sport's international governing body, for cancelling the Libya-Algeria World Cup elimination match, the official Libyan news agency JANA said yesterday.

Libya said it cancelled the game because of what it called the danger of an American attack against an alleged chemical weapons plant 90 kilometres outside Tripoli.

Dutch star in $10 million deal

PV Eindhoven's Ronald Koeman signed a four-year contract with Spanish side Barcelona today in one of the most expensive transfer deals in soccer history.

Spanish newspapers reported Barcelona were paying a total of $10 million dollars.

Six million to P8V and one million dollars a year to Koeman who joins his new club in July.

Previous big money deals include the $8.5 million dollar transfer of Dutchman Rood Guitil from PSV to AG Milan last year, and Argentine Diago Maradona's $1.5 million dollar move from Barcelona to Nepoli in 1984.

Q.P.R. chases Peter Reid

INJURY-HIT English First Division side Queen's Park Rangers have switched their search for a new midfield player to former England man Peter Reid.

QPR player-manager Trevor Francis, has the 32 year-old playmaker at the head of his list after a lucrative bid for Aster Villa's Andy Bray was rejected last week.

Should he fail to land Reid, who rejected moves to Swiss club Neuchafel, and Newcastle last year, Francis will concentrate on Liverpool's Nigel Spackman who recently decided against joining Sheffield Wednesday.

Another British international midfield player who could soon be on the move is Manchester United's Gordon Strachan. The Scot is wanted by his first club Dundee, as player-manager.

Meanwhile, Newcastle forward Michael O'Neill and Liverpool striker John Durain are in demand from other top clubs.

FIFA pops question on youth cup

THE Australian Soccer Federation, buoyed by a new seven-figure, five-year sponsorship deal, has been asked whether it is interested in hosting the 1991 World Youth Cup championship.

FIFA, the sport's world-governing body, officially approached the ASF on the matter last week.

ASF president Ian Brusasco said they would jump at the chance to again host the championships.

Australia won wide acclaim when it organised the 1981 championships, which were regarded as a huge success.

Brusasco said the approach did not necessarily mean Australia would automatically win the rights.

"But it shows that FIFA has a high regard for our organising abilities, so we must be a good chance," he said.

FIFA is likely to make a final decision on the venue some time in February after the World Youth Cup in Saudi Arabia later next month.

ASF QUITS SMOKING OPTS FOR HEALTH INSTEAD

● From Page 1

level would in future be tobacco free.

He acknowledged that there was an existing agreement with Rothmans in respect of the Socceroos, but he was hopeful that Rothmans would release the ASF from that obligation.

Wilst it means most of us have attended our last Rothmans Medal dinner, the move is very welcome.

Training to play a strenuous game like soccer and smoking don't mix, and it has always seemed like blatant hypocrisy to me that we were prepared to turn a blind eye to the health risks, just for the money.

Soccer owes a big debt of gratitude to the Sunshine George Cross club, incidentally, for it and particularly committeeman Terry Muscat did all the initial spadework that got the Victorian Health Foundation interested in sponsoring soccer.

In recognition of the part it played the club has been given a $60,000 sponsorship for this season.

So Paul Wade and Martin Woodall's medals take on the distinction of rarity, but what is going to replace the Medal?

I hope that no-one in the VSF is contemplating a takeover of the Bill Fleming Medal.

The Fleming is a Press award, and should remain that way, so hands off!

Club to cage its hooligans

LONDON: English First Division club Nottingham Forest is resigned to having to cage in its fans after Wednesday night's pitch invasion at the City Ground which provoked manager Brian Clough to assault five of them.

Forest chairman Maurice Roworth said: "There's nothing more certain than the Football Association now ordering us to put up fences. I hope those fans will now sit back and realise everyone at the ground is likely to be fenced in because of their actions."

Graham Taylor, manager of Aston Villa, which visited Forest yesterday, has appealed to his club's supporters not to provoke Clough by running on to the pitch.

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WEST END

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

Round Three January 28/29
Round Two January 26

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS
v
PRESTON MAKEDONIA
Chaplin Reserve
Thursday January 26
K.O. 6.00 p.m.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS
v
MARCONI
Chaplin Reserve
Saturday January 28
K.O. 6.00 p.m.

MELBOURNE CROATIA
v
HEIDELBERG UNITED
Somers St., Nth Sunshine
Thursday January 26
K.O. 6.30 p.m.

HEIDELBERG UNITED
v
MELBOURNE CITY
Olympic Village
Sunday January 29
K.O. 6.00 p.m.

SOUTH MELBOURNE
V
SYDNEY CROATIA
Olympic Park
Thursday January 26
K.O. 6.30 p.m.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA
v
SOUTH MELBOURNE
Olympic Park
Sunday January 29
K.O. 8.00 p.m.

MARCONI v MELBOURNE CITY
Marconi Stadium, January 26 K.O. 6.30 p.m.

APIA LEICHHARDT v MELBOURNE CROATIA
Lambert Park Saturday January 28 K.O. 6.00 p.m.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v APIA LEICHHARDT
St George Stadium, January 26 K.O. 7.30 p.m.

BLACKTOWN CITY v SYDNEY OLYMPIC
Gabbie Stadium, Sunday January 29 K.O. 6.00 p.m.

WOLLONGONG CITY v BLACKTOWN CITY
Brandon Park, January 26 K.O. 6.30 p.m.

ST GEORGE v WOLLONGONG CITY
St George Stadium, Sunday January 29 K.O. 7 p.m.

ADELAIDE CITY v ST GEORGE
Hindmarsh Stadium, K.O. 7.30 p.m.

SYDNEY CROATIA v ADELAIDE CITY
Croatian Sports Centre, Sunday January 29 K.O. 5 p.m.